

KATE FIELD'S LETTERS.

The Thanksgiving Day in Honolulu.

HER OPINION OF THE SOLDIERS.

Regard for Colonel McLean's Reform Methods—A Church Where the Gospel is Preached—At Dinner With the News Boys—Turkey.

HONOLULU, Nov. 25.—Just one week today since I set foot on this speck of land, so small when compared to the water around it that I am surprised to wake of a morning and find myself still anchored to terra firma. There seems to be no reason why a tidal wave should not inundate this pretty town, which lies a few feet above the ocean, nor why the extinct volcanoes embracing it should not come to life and belch forth destroying fire. The Hawaiian Islands have literally gone through fire and water in the past. Why not again? Made up of coral reefs and lava, they inspire a feeling of insecurity I never before experienced. Of course continents owe their being to equally violent causes, but their vastness gives them an appearance of stability that dots on the map can never attain. Residents, however, go about with continental assurance, while I meditate tying a life preserver to my bedpost and hanging a canoe outside of my window. Familiarity stifles imagination.

The United States is not alone today in celebrating a national Thanksgiving. With the thermometer at 76 degrees Fahrenheit in the shade, with mountains clad in luxuriant verdure, with flowers blooming in every garden, I am undergoing more thanksgiving than I ever dreamed of in New England, and realize more and more the influence of our country. Captain Morse, an old sea captain, who has lately lectured on Hawaii in San Francisco, maintains that these islands were originally peopled by North American Indians, and is inclined to believe that they formed part of our continent until volcanic disturbance severed the connection. Who so wise as to deny this hypothesis? Do not the Aleutian Islands extend to the very border of Asia? Can any one doubt that they once belonged to the eastern promontory of Alaska? Get out your atlas and you'll discover that the Hawaiian group is 1,000 miles nearer our coast than the last of the Aleutian chain. In point of sympathy and commerce the latter are in infinitely nearer.

President Dole's Proclamation.
Read the following proclamation and then ask yourself whether the United States is far away:

PROCLAMATION.
The past year has brought varied experiences to the republic. With abundant crops and fair business prosperity, both foreign and domestic, have come the critical incidents of domestic disturbance and dangerous pestilence, from both of which the country has been mercifully delivered with small loss of life through the blessing of providence and the efforts of the government and its citizens.

In view of these things and other countless benefits which have been vouchsafed to us I Sanford B. Dole, president of the Republic of Hawaii, recommend that Thursday, the 25th day of this present month, November, be set apart as a day of national Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the blessings of the past year and the promise of the future, and of prayer for the continuance of His favor.
By the president: SANFORD B. DOLE.

J. A. KING,
Minister of the Interior.
Remember that this young Republic has faced revolution and cholera within the last ten months and the cause for rejoicing becomes manifest.
My celebration began at 11 o'clock last night, when native youths serenaded my hotel with songs of the soil, monotonous in character, but plaintive and sympathetic. Hawaiians are natural musicians—I have heard a missionary call them the French of the Pacific—and I believe they would show more talent musically than in any other direction were their inborn taste developed. Let a four-stringed instrument looking like a violin, but thrummed like a guitar, and they sing in soft voices airs devoid of strong originality, yet sufficiently unlike English or American ballads to be warmly welcomed by thirsty ears.

Troops on Parade.
Again at 8 o'clock in the morning serenaders awakened me. I think they were serenading Queen Liliuokalani, who lives in retirement near by, and were paying her the compliment of singing a song said to have been composed by her. Three hours later a bugle called the troops to order not three blocks away from the royal residence. I wondered what Liliuokalani thought of the new kind of Thanksgiving that meant the downfall of monarchy. The Hawaiian army was ordered to parade for the first time and began marching at 8:30. Few American regulars would have done better, and though you may be inclined to laugh at an army of 750 men, it would be folly for the Government to have more troops and unwise to have less. A more peaceable population was never made up of such heterogeneous material, but no one knows what might happen were all signs of force to disappear. Stories of filibusters still pervade the air, though where these filibusters are to get the sinews of war nobody knows. Royalists would undoubtedly like to see the Queen restored, but after the fiasco of last January not one of them is likely to actively conspire.
It was the January events that led

the Government to reorganize its troops. Nothing is so expensive as incapacity. President Dole and his advisers discovered this fact after spending \$100,000 on a crazy inscription that experts say ought not to have cost half that amount.

Commanded by an American.

With a view to bringing order out of chaos, the Government invited Robert Hamilton McLean, late of the United States navy, to take command of their troops, with the rank of colonel. Judging by results it is safe to say that Colonel McLean is the right man in the right place. A native of New Jersey, McLean as a boy was so determined to be an officer in the United States navy as to apprentice himself before the mast in the naval training ship Sabine, where he served along the coast for a year with Annapolis in view. At the end of that time twenty apprentices were sent up for examination, ten of whom could be selected by law. Out of these twenty only six passed muster. McLean was at their head. He graduated fourth in his class. After twenty years of active service in the navy he took a year's leave of absence to visit Europe and then resigned to become commandant of the Cheltenham Military Academy near Philadelphia. Knowledge of McLean's special capacity in organization and discipline led the Hawaiian Government to apply for his services as early as June, 1894, but no positive action was taken until the trouble of last January convinced all supporters of the Republic that there could be no further delay in securing a commander.

Colonel McLean assumed command of the army last May. It consisted at that time of two companies of sixty men each and of four companies of volunteers. Their condition was far from satisfactory. Eighteen sentries guarded the palace, now used as a government building, and twelve pieces of artillery stood in the palace grounds, with loaded muzzles pointed toward the four streets surrounding it.

Instituted Some Reforms.

Colonel McLean's first reform was to reduce the sentinels to four. The timid were sure something would happen, and nothing has happened since. His next reform was to take off those twelve guns, and thus remove a source of irritation to royalists and to nervous omen and children, who felt that they were being perpetually menaced. Critics assured Colonel McLean that he was inviting revolution, but, as he wished to silence the slur cast on the republic of being "a government of bayonets," and to banish all signs of war, he followed the dictates of common sense. Discipline and increased vigilance have been excellent substitutes for loaded guns, and the people are more content than they have been for many months.

As now organized, the Hawaiian army consists of eight companies of 700 men, fifty sharpshooters, a mounted reserve of forty young fellows who ride with the ease of cowboys, twenty-four mounted police and thirty-two foot police. In addition is a valuable citizens' guard of 700 responsible residents of Honolulu, who wear no uniforms, but are fully armed and equipped, and whose duty it is to keep order in town in the event of trouble. The efficiency of this guard was tested last January. In a few minutes after the alarm sounded every street corner had its armed sentinel and no one passed without a permit. If filibusters descend upon this island of Oahu they will have a hard time getting into the city and a much harder time getting out. To enter the harbor is a bare possibility. Three other possible landings are feasible, not one of which but would be known in half an hour through every telegraph wire were cut. No steamer could bring more than 500 filibusters. Four times that number could not cope with the government troops. What interest will spend half a million in fitting out such an expedition against this republic?

Guns for Filibusters.

Whoever comes will discover artillery enough for a division of infantry, besides Driggs Schroeder field gun that can sink any merchant vessel, and penetrate a two inch steel plate at 1000 yards. If filibusters land on any other island they may plunder for awhile, but the capital will remain safe. What Washington is to the United States Honolulu is to Hawaii. I envy no men who try to upset the status quo. Mark you, there isn't a decent harbor outside of this port in all the islands, I am told. How to land, then, becomes a serious consideration after the why and wherefore have been settled.

To think that a day of thanksgiving should have inspired such warlike comments! Had you seen today's parade, however, the cause would be apparent. I was proud of the troops because they were commanded by an American skilled in his profession, and because they showed what training means. Of the eight companies, one is German, one Portuguese, one Hawaiian, one Irish-American; the other four are made up of Americans, some of whom belong to the Grand Army. Others are ex-soldiers of our regular army who have been honorably discharged. Such material will not run away. The Hawaiians march well and look the peers of all.

After President Dole reviewed the troops from the terrace of the palace, the parade ended and we wended our way to one of the many churches that proclaim Christianity in six different languages. Prominent among them is the Central Union, so called because it gathers within its walls believers in evangelical religion regardless of sects and endeavors to obliterate creeds as much as possible. There worships every member of the cabinet and there sit President Dole on one side of the main aisle and United States Minister Willis on the other. It must be tolerably catholic preaching that finds favor with a Unitarian and a Presbyterian. Certainly Dr. Birnie's sermon on "Christian Citizenship" appealed to everybody's reason. Paul's words, "Let your conversation be as becometh the gospel of Christ," were taken as the text. Were they followed by royalists, republicans and annexationists, all of whom are communicants of the Central Union Church, would be the happy family they formed before the revolution.

Dinner to Newsboys.

No sooner had we ceased to "praise God, from whom all blessings flow" than

and I confess that the doxology sounds strangely under tropical skies, amid dusky skins—than I went forth in search of "Love's Bakery." Yes, Love keeps a bakery in Honolulu, and there the "Hawaiian Star" gave a Thanksgiving dinner to sixty newsboys and their brothers and their cousins. Never have I seen so motley a crew as marched in, two by two, and captured the small tables prepared for them. From 2 years to 14 ranged their ages. The most learned ethnologist would have been at his wit's end to guess to what races some of them belonged. There were Americans, Irish, Portuguese, Hawaiians, Chinese and Japanese, unmistakable in feature. There were blendings of races, however, that set one thinking as to consequences, and which are not possible in any other part of our nation.

But Jew, Gentile, Portuguese, Hawaiian, Chinese, Japanese, American, half white, three-quarters white, half Polynesian, and half Chinese, half Japanese and half Polynesian, half Portuguese and half something else, and a slight dash of Africa, all wanted turkey and cranberry sauce. That's what they came for. No rice and no potatoes for the celestials; no poi for the Hawaiians, but adulterated turkey. I shall never forget the scorn depicted on a kanaka lad's face when a great dish of poi was placed in the middle of his table, while turkey was being served near by. With an indignant wave of his hand and a few choice words from his expressive vocabulary, he ordered that dish off, and was not appeased until informed that turkey was coming. When soda water and root beer followed generous plates of the Thanksgiving bird, shouts of joy went up from those boyish throats.

Stuffed to Repletion.

The youngest Chinese seemed to know how to force in a soda water cork, and the way all of them took to the bottle without the interposition of tumblers was a spectacle for Puck. Delight at meat and drink paled before the wild demonstration that greeted the appearance of a pyramid of boxes filled with candy. Sugar makes the whole world kin. The youngest celestial was as eager for his prize as the native or the Anglo-Saxon, and the vim which that human oil podridge gave a "hip, hip, hurrah" in varied accents was startling. Even in that assemblage of youth, the few Americans were "on top" and had brought up their comrades in the way they should shout. It was a straw, but straws show how the wind blows.

With cheers for the editors of the Star these unique newsboys formed in line after they had taken themselves to repletion and marched to the office of their paper. There waited a great omnibus, drawn by four horses, to take them to the baseball game a few miles distant. Before climbing inside, outside or on top of the elastic "bus," every boy was given a tin horn. Then the acme of bliss was attained. Pandemonium was let loose when this human hive drove through the town. Such a sight and such sounds had never before surprised Honolulu, and the boys felt themselves to be the heroes of the hour.

Thus is Hawaii being Americanized, even unto the tooting of tin horns, turkey and cranberry sauce. Mince pies are advertised in public prints and on signboards, and I am now going to dine with a charming woman, whose table will groan under the weight of such feast of good things as old folks at home dream not of at this season of the year. Aloha!

KATE FIELD.

Many merchants are well aware that their customers are their best friends and take pleasure in supplying them with the best goods obtainable. As an instance we mention Perry & Cameron, prominent druggists of Flushing, Michigan. They say: "We have no hesitation in recommending Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to our customers, as it is the best cough medicine we have ever sold, and always gives satisfaction." For sale at 25 and 50 cents per bottle by all druggists and dealers. BENSON SMITH & Co. agents for H. I.

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Caution.—Ask for Clarke's Blood Mixture, and beware of worthless imitations or substitutes.

A CHARITABLE AFFAIR.

The Performance on Saturday Next.

MEREDITH'S OLD COAT.

Money Needed for Kawaiaha Church.
Rehearsals Drawing to a Close.
Stage Arrangements—Seats Selling Rapidly—Cast of Characters.

Through the incompleteness of statement regarding the financial situation of Kawaiaha as published several weeks ago in one of the evening papers, people not fully acquainted with the affairs of the church have come to believe that it is entirely out of debt. In order to correct the impression it will be necessary to state a few items of debt for which the church has become liable and other items of debt yet to be contracted.

Regarding the recent construction of the interior all debts were paid so far as they went.

The Sunday schoolroom has not been completed and furniture has not been purchased for it. This together with other bills for church furnishings and certain repairs, already contracted, will swell the sum needed to \$1000 not to say anything of proposed repairs to the outside of the church, estimates for which have not yet been received.

Kawaiaha has on hand about \$300 and the need for more funds will be very evident upon reference to the statements made above.

In order to aid the old historical church, officers of the U. S. S. Bennington together with prominent society people of the city have decided to present to the Honolulu public, Mr. W. H. Alderdice's spirited comedy in three acts, entitled "Meredith's Old Coat," to be given at Independence Park pavilion Saturday evening.

The ladies and gentlemen of the cast have been working zealously on the play and have brought it to such a point that their interpretation of it has become highly satisfactory to Mr. Alderdice. The parts are all well taken and the play will undoubtedly prove one of the best ever attempted in Honolulu by amateurs.

It is a farcical comedy dealing with the complications growing out of the disappearance of an old office coat belonging to a young attorney who is about to be married. The coat is carried off by the young man's fiancée to be used as a pattern for a smoking jacket, which she wishes to surprise him with upon his birthday. Unfortunately, however, the coat contains in its pockets the money destined by the prospective bridegroom to defray the expenses of his honeymoon, and in addition, several letters and legal documents, the loss of which causes embarrassment to various persons in the play. The young man's engagement is broken, the final denouement brings explanations and general happiness.

"Meredith's Old Coat" was presented in Washington three years ago and was a decided hit. A clipping from the Washington Post at that time makes the following comment on the play:

"Society, especially the official and charitable contingent, turned out in force to attend the matinee performance of 'Meredith's Old Coat' and the Academy of Music contained as pleasing an audience as it has held in a long time. Charity is truly a virtue when combined with entertainment, and the patrons of this performance not only got their money's worth, but the building fund of the Home of the Incurables received a handsome sum therefrom."

Following is a cast of the characters in "Meredith's Old Coat":

Mr. Montgomery Wood.....Mr. Speyers
Mrs. Montgomery Wood.....Mrs. Graham
Miss Ethel Wood.....Miss May Atkinson
Miss Gwendolyn Wood.....
.....Miss Molly Atkinson
Mr. Thaddeus Brown.....Mr. Mayo
Mr. George Meredith.....Geo. C. Potter
Mr. Reginald Hartwell.....
.....Mr. Alderdice
Miss Bridget Mulligan.....Miss McGrew
Mr. Michael Hoolihan.....Dr. Nichols
Mr. Kempston.....Mr. Addison
Mrs. Rice.....Mrs. Gunn
William.....Mr. Mackintosh

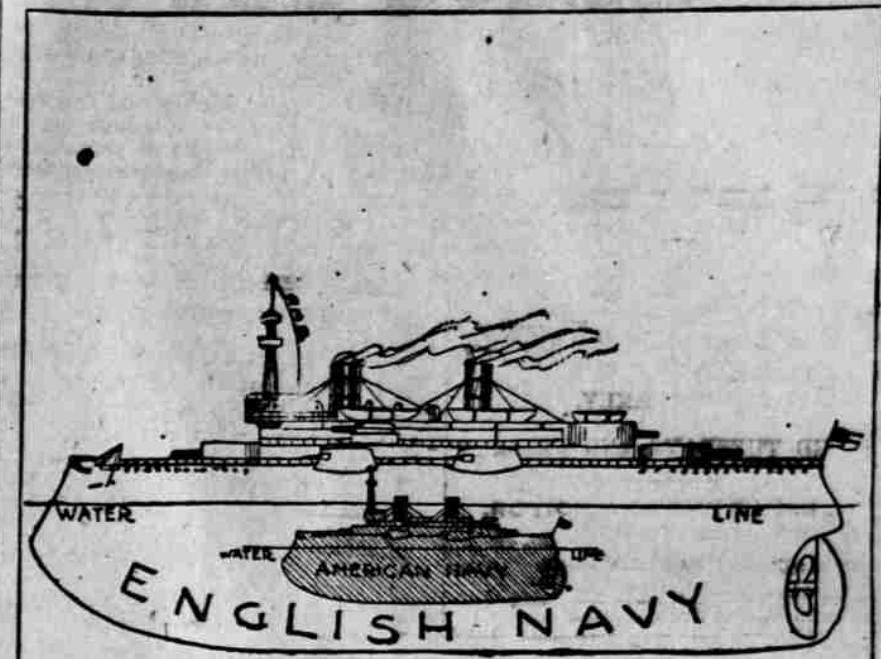
Tickets for the play are now on sale at the Hawaiian News Company and Benson, Smith & Company's drug store. A number have also been placed in the hands of friends in order that all people may be reached.

It was thought that more people could be induced to attend the play if personally visited by the various holders of tickets and for that reason the plan was hit upon.

Reserved seats can be had at the Hobson Drug Company, beginning Thursday morning. Tickets will be left there and coupons for reserved seats received upon the payment of twenty-five cents extra.

On account of there being no opera house, the management has been at a great deal of expense to erect and furnish a stage in the park pavilion. It is hoped that the public will respond generously in order that a handsome sum may be realized for Kawaiaha clear of all expenses.

For a pain in the chest a piece of flannel dampened with Chamberlain's Pain Balm and bound on over the seat of pain, and another on the back between the shoulders, will afford prompt relief. This is especially valuable in cases where the pain is caused by a cold and there is a tendency toward pneumonia. For sale by all druggists and dealers. BENSON, SMITH & Co. agents for H. I.



NAVIES OF ENGLAND AND UNITED STATES COMPARED.

The accompanying cut shows the relative sizes of the navies of Great Britain and the United States. Taking tonnage, armament and numbers into consideration, the British navy is six times as great and powerful as that of the United States. England has 86 armored ships, the United States 20 (half of them practically useless); England has 52 protected cruisers, the United States 13; England has 88 unarmored cruisers, the United States 20; England has 180 torpedo boats, the United States 2 completed and 7 building; England has 32 torpedo catchers, the United States 1. Built or building, Great Britain has 567 warships and the United States only 90.

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